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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Don Young
House of Representatives
2331 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

This is in reply to your letter of January 14, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Martin J. Hall, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Hall is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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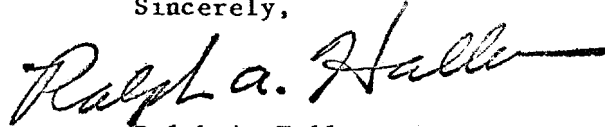
Honorable Don Young

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due February 26, 1993, and Reply Comments are due April 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued near the end of 1993. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosure:
Notice

cc:
Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&M Divison
Deputy Chief, LM&M Division
Lou Sizemore, Room 857
Docket Files, Room 222
Licensing Div., PRB, c/o Room 5202
P&P Branch Files

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Congressional

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01/22/93

LETTER REPORT

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TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Don Young	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Martin Hall	info/comments on a docket

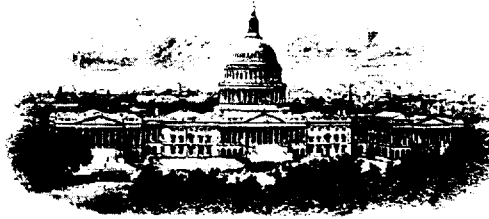
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REMARKS:

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DON YOUNG
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA
WASHINGTON OFFICE
2331 RAYBURN BUILDING
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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DISTRICT OFFICES
222 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 3
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99513-7595
TELEPHONE 907/271-5978
Box 10, 101 12TH AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
TELEPHONE 907/456-0210
401 FEDERAL BUILDING
P.O. Box 1247
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802
TELEPHONE 907/586-7400
501 FEDERAL BUILDING
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99902
TELEPHONE 907/225-6880
120 TRADING BAY
SUITE 260
KENAI, ALASKA 99611
Box 177
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615
P.O. Box 1860
NOME, ALASKA 99762

January 14, 1993

Linda Solheim
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 808
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

I have enclosed the letter which I received from my constituent, Martin Hall (1958 Kittiwake Drive, Fairbanks, AK 99709) regarding a matter under your department's jurisdiction. His particular complaint is described in his letter.

I would appreciate your reviewing this case and providing me with any comments regarding this situation. Please forward your reply to my Washington, D.C. office.

Thank you for your continued time and courtesy in being attentive to the concerns of my constituent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don Young".
DON YOUNG
Congressman for all Alaska

DY:nml

Enclosure

RECEIVED
JAN 20 1993
11:27 AM

MARTIN J. HALL
1958 KITTIWAKE DR.
FAIRBANKS, AK., 99709

1-10-93

REPRESENTATIVE DON YOUNG
101 12th Ave.
Fairbanks, Ak., 99701

Representative Young,

I have recently become aware of a Notice of Proposed Rule Making from the F.C.C. that has caused great concern. This proposal (NPRM - PR Docket 92-235) was created by the Mobile Land Service and will cause a massive re-structuring of frequencies. While directed at C.F.R. Part 88, it will be of devastating repercussions to C.F.R. Part 95, or specifically, radio control operation.

Currently in model radio operation control we have the use of numerous frequencies in the 72.0 and 75.0 MHz bands. The typical spacing of these freq's are .020 MHz with a commercial use freq. inserted in between at a .010 MHz spacing from our freq's. Currently there generally is no problem with this spacing, however problems do occur when an " un-clean " transmitter is used. Our transmitters are required not to " splatter " (frequency must not exceed 1500 Hz from the operating freq.) and cause problems for the commercial users and they must not effect ours. With the proposed rule, this will end. The proposed rule will allow the insertion of TWO new frequencies between the R/C hobby and the commercial users.

Example:

Model Channel 12	72.030 MHz
New inserted channel	72.0325 MHz
New inserted channel	72.0375 MHz
Present commercial user	72.040 MHz

This means that between EACH MODEL FREQ. AND COMMERCIAL FREQ. THERE WILL BE TWO FREQ'S INSERTED. OR IN OTHER WORDS, BETWEEN EACH MODEL FREQ., FOUR WILL BE INSERTED. Due to the facts that these new freq's will be of a stronger power and mobile along with the much closer separation (2.5 kHz), they will swamp any control use of the currently existing user.

At this time in Fairbanks we have approximately 100 people flying radio control aircraft, 500 or 600 in Alaska, with considerably more operating radio control cars and boats. Considering the insolation of Fairbanks and ALaska, this is a significant number and illustrated that in the Lower Forty Eight, there are users numbering in the high tens of thousands. The commercial operators must be a like number.

The cost of changing the frequencies for all the current users

would be high and complicated. Possibly to high and complicated for it to occur for all users. While I can not speak for the commercial users, however I would estimate that they have thousands of dollars tied up in the systems using this Radio Service. Speaking for the radio control modeler, I can state that they have from as little as a few hundred dollars to many thousands. I am currently building one model that will be worth an estimated \$2500.00 when I finish building it and get it in the air. I will not be a happy camper if it gets shot down by some one driving by on the highway, getting instructions to pick up a loaf of bread on the way home! .

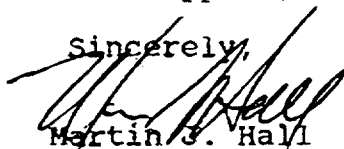
Both in realm of radio control and the commercial user, there is a real danger if these freq's are interfered with. The weights of our models run some where in the area of 10 to 16 lbs with the weight going as high as 75 lbs in some models. Speeds of 150 MPH are not unheard of, however the average speed is some where around 70 to 90 MPH. A 10 lbs. plane at 80 MPH is not something you would want to hit you or your car or your home, let alone a child. Our models are capable in inflicting serious injury and even death. In addition to the people associated with some national organization (Approximately 30 % of the model users.), there are un-told thousands that will not get the word. The national organizations are all ready warning us to the problem.

The commercial users use these freq's for many and varied uses, including the radio control of over head cranes. The National Guard at Eielson A.F.B. is one users that would not be happy if they were lifting a heavy air craft component and it was dropped due to proposed new service.

Your support prior to Feb. 26, 1993 in assisting to negating this proposed rule is requested. It is not in the best interest of those current users of the radio service as it will prove to be costly for a large number of people and will set up a dangerous situation for the radio control of models and commercial users.

Thank you for your time and support,

Sincerely,



Martin S. Hall

Academy of Model Aeronautics Leader Member
Owner Alaska Radio Control Specialties
Radio Control Modeler